National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center

Inside Wallops

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Student Experiments Fly on Space Shuttle

When the Space Shuttle Discovery flies into space June 2 it will be carrying experiments from several student organizations on Delmarva thanks to the quick work of personnel at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., and Wallops Island, Va.

Experiments from Chincoteague Elementary School and the Chesapeake Bay Girl Scout Council, EXCEL Science Museum, and Wicomico High School in Salisbury will join others from South Carolina, Washington and Wisconsin as part of the Space Experiment Module (SEM) - 05. The Eastern Shore experiments include the effects of micro-gravity on seeds, yeast, fungus and electronic data storage.

Wallops and Greenbelt staff prepare SEM - 05 for flight.

Nearly 150 student experimenters are expected to view the 6:10 p.m. launch from the NASA Visitor Center at Wallops. In addition to watching the launch, the students will view SEM hardware and meet with NASA folks who installed their experiments.

The opportunity for the students to participate in this flight occurred in February when the Goddard Shuttle Small Payload Projects office received word that space became available on the STS-91 Shuttle mission.The hitch was that the SEM payload had to be ready for flight and at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida by March 2.

In three weeks, the NASA crews worked feverishly to solicit applications to prospective organizations, receive and review the applications, send out flight hardware to the selected organizations and receive it back, and integrate the individual experiments into the SEM payload canister and ship it to Florida.

The SEM payload, which includes 10 individual containers of experiments, is located in the cargo bay of the Discovery. Following landing, the experiments will be removed from the Shuttle and returned to the students for analysis.

The SEM provides access to space for kindergarten through university level students. Opportunities are still available to fly on the Space Shuttle mission currently scheduled for May 1999.

For further information, visit the SEM homepage at: **http://sspp.gsfc.nasa.gov/sem/sem.htm**

GS&TI Selected to Provide Computer, Scientific, and Research and Development Support

NASA has selected Global Science and Technology, Inc. (GS&TI), Greenbelt, Md., for a $40 million contract to provide computer, scientific, and research and development support for the Goddard Space Flight Center.

This five-year contract is a performance-based Cost-Plus-Incentive-Fee Indefinite Quantity Indefinite Delivery contract. The contractor will provide research and operations via task orders. Each task order may be based on one or more of the following: cost, schedule or performance.

This procurement is for research support to Goddard's Earth Science Directorate. The support will include, but is not limited to, creating computer systems and technologies to transform remotely sensed data into information for NASA research and public applications through creation of prototype systems and validation of the technologies.

The work required in this contract involves creating three interacting operational elements that combine to expedite the flow of technologies and systems from applied research to practical application of data products. The three operational elements are: applied research; technology integration and systems development; and applications development, field validation and outreach.

Wallops Shorts.....

Balloon Launches

A four million cubic foot NASA scientific balloon carrying a high energy astrophysics experiment was successfully launched May 21 from Ft. Sumner, NM. The University of California, San Diego experiment was to perform background studies of CDZNTE "Next Generation" x-ray detectors. Jim Mattenson was the principal investigator.

On May 28, a 39.57 million cubic foot NASA scientific balloon was successfully launched from Ft. Sumner, NM. The cosmic and heliospheric physics experiment was to measure antiproton and positron spectra from 4-50 GeV. Dr. Steven Stochaj, New Mexico State University was the principal investigator.

Rocket Launch

A Terrier-Black Brant sounding rocket was successfully launched and recovered May 22 from the White Sands Missile Range, NM. The experiment was to image an edge-on spiral galaxy with a near IR telescope. The principal investigator was Andrew Lange, California Institute of Technology, and the Wallops payload manager was Dave Moltedo, Code 546.

EMS Response

The Wallops Fire Department responded to two mutual aid requests from Accomack County 911. On May 25, Wallops emergency medical service (EMS) personnel responded with an ambulance to Horntown and transported the patient to Peninsula Regional Medical Center. EMS personnel assisted the Oak Hall Rescue Squad with an emergency medical call at Captain's Cove on May 26.

School Visits

Steve Skees visited 8th and 9th grade science classes at Norfolk Christian High School, Norfolk, Va. on May 27.

Sam West spoke to students at St. Frances de Sales School, Salisbury, Md. on May 28.

David Zigler, a senior at Broadwater Academy, Exmore, Va. is spending Senior Week, May 28 to June 3, with **Chuck Brodell**.

Notice.....

Effective Monday, June 1, 1998, the Wallops Travel Office will be open from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday.

Anyone having to make travel arrangements after these hours will need to call the Langely office at 757-864-2082.

June is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

by Dianne Hargrove, R.N.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer to strike men and the second most common cause of death from cancer for men in the U.S.

The majority of cases of prostate cancer arise from cells in the glandular or mucus-secreting tissue of the prostate gland. Once a prostate cancer is established and becomes invasive it may spread to the lymph nodes. Later these malignant cells could make themselves evident in bone, liver, lung, brain or other organs of the body.

Modern medicine is trying to detect prostate cancer cases as early as possible, perform surgery or radiation therapy to remove or kill a cancer once it is detected and to use radiation therapy, chemotherapy and hormone therapy to treat cancers that have recurred or spread.

Cancer screening has become an important part of fighting cancer. Examples of cancer screening tests are pap smears, mammography, stool blood testing and Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA).

The cause of prostate cancer is not known. Few risk factors have been identified. Because prostate cancer is such a common disease, especially in older individuals, all men should be aware of the risk factors.

AGE — prostate cancer risk increases with age.

RACE — prostate cancer is more common in black men than in white men and appears less frequently in Asian men.

FAMILY HISTORY — A man who has relatives with prostate cancer is at higher risk of having prostate cancer himself.

VASECTOMY — an increased incidence of prostate cancer is found in men who have had a vasectomy.

DIET — a high fat diet has been associated with a higher incidence of prostate cancer.

Methods to detect prostate cancer include, rectal examination, rectal ultrasound, blood tests, prostate biopsy, and a combination of tests. The American Cancer Society recommends the following:

All men over age 40 should have an annual rectal examination.

Men over age 50 are advised to have annual rectal exams and the PSA blood test.

For further information call the Health Unit, x1336.

World Heavyweight Boxing Championship

June 6
Doors open at 8 p.m.
Building F-3

Evander Holyfield
World WBA/IBF Champion
Vs.
Henry Akinwande
Former WBO Champion

Undercard includes: Roberto Duran, Johnny Tipia, Christy Martin

$5 per person. Free for Fitness Club members who present up-to-date cards. For further information contact Robert Tittle, x1244

Steak Dinner and Record Hop

6 p.m. June 5
Building F-3
$15 per person

Advance Ticket Sales Only - 50 dinner tickets will be sold. Tickets are available at the Exchange and the Rocket Club

Menu: Steak, baked potato, corn-on-cob, rolls, beverage, dessert

Contact Jan Neville, x1526.

Dance to the music of the 50's, 60's, 70's, and early 80's immediately following steak dinner until 1 a.m.
$5 per person

Dance marathon - First Prize $100
Second Prize $50

In each of the following age categories:
Combined age of couples = 80 and below
Combined age of couples = 81- 110
Combined age of couples = 111 and above

Admission is free to individuals attending the steak dinner, Fitness Club members who present up-to-date club cards or current members of the Aerobic Club. For further information, call Bob Tittle, x1244.

Wallops Annual Picnic

June 27
Noon to 5 p.m.
Ball Field Picnic Area

Food, Music and Fun

Burgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob, sodas and beer will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share.

DJ - Noon to 4 p.m.

Waterslide, volleyball, softball, hayride and horse-shoes

For information contact Gerry McIntire, x1889 or Bev Hall, x1714

Upcoming Course

System Safety Fundamentals
When: June 22 to June 26
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This course instructs the student in the fundamentals of system safety engineering, system safety management, and hazard analysis of hardware, software, and operations. Basic concepts and principles of the analytical process are stressed. Guidance is provided on identifying generic hazards, causes and consequences. The student is introduced to NASA publications and requirements that guide safety analysis as well as to general reference texts on subject areas covered. Types and techniques of hazard analysis are addressed in enough detail to give a working knowledge of their uses and how they are accomplished.

Who should take this course:
Safety management and engineering professionals involved in the performance of system safety analyses, and are in the review of designs, operations, and safety analysis data.

This course is offered at no cost to NASA civil service and contractor employees. For further information contact Joe Drawdy, x1884.

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